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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/564,030	01/09/2006	Annette S. Kim	21460P	7209
MERCK AND	7590 03/05/200 CO., INC	EXAMINER		
P O BOX 2000			HAVLIN, ROBERT H	
RAHWAY, NJ 07065-0907			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1626	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			03/05/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
	10/564,030	KIM, ANNETTE S.				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	ROBERT HAVLIN	1626				
The MAILING DATE of this communication app	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address				
Period for Reply						
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tim vill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE	N. nely filed the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).				
Status						
1)⊠ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>03 De</u>	ecember 2007.					
	action is non-final.					
3) Since this application is in condition for allowar						
closed in accordance with the practice under E	x parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 45	i3 O.G. 213.				
Disposition of Claims						
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-10 and 18</u> is/are pending in the application.						
4a) Of the above claim(s) <u>3,5,7-9 and 18</u> is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.						
6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1,2,4,6 and 10</u> is/are rejected.						
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.						
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	r election requirement.					
Application Papers						
9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examine	r.					
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.						
Applicant may not request that any objection to the	drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See	∍ 37 CFR 1.85(a).				
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct						
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	aminer. Note the attached Office	Action or form PTO-152.				
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).						
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:						
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.						
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No						
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage						
application from the International Bureau		٩				
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list	or the certified copies not receive	u.				
Attachmont(s)						
Attachment(s) 1) \(\sum \) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) 🔲 Interview Summary	(PTO-413)				
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Da	nte				
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/7/2008, 3/10/2006.	5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other:	atent Application				

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DETAILED ACTION

Status of the claims: Claims 1-10 and 18 are currently pending. Claims 11-17 and 19 were cancelled.

Priority: This application is a 371 of PCT/US04/23425 (07/20/2004) which claims benefit of 60/489,699 (07/24/2003).

IDS: The IDS dated 3/10/2006 and 2/7/2008 were considered.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of group I (product of claims 1-10) in the reply filed on 12/03/2007 is acknowledged. Applicant also elected the following species (reading on claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, and 18):

No generic claim was found patentable, as detailed in the following rejections. Therefore, the claims are restricted to the elected species only and the remaining subject matter withdrawn. The restricted subject matter may be eligible for rejoinder if applicant responds in a manner that avoids the prior art.

Double Patenting

1. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated

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by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

2. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, and 10 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim1-5 of U.S. Patent No. 10/564347. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the copending application claims a genus of

compounds of the formula:

which overlaps with the instant claims. The elected species of the instant application reads on the claims of the '347 application where R2 is t-butyl; R1 is phenyl (aryl); and R3 is -C(O)H. Thus it appears as though the applicant is attempting to patent the same subject matter twice.

3. In addition, in claim 5 of the '347 application the species

methyl 4-ethyl-2-formyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate; is claimed. The difference between the instant elected species and the '347 species is a methyl to t-buty modification on an ester. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the alkyl

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substituent on an ester from a methyl to a t-butyl because they are equivalent in the context of the pharmaceutical arts.

4. This is a <u>provisional</u> double patenting rejection since the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 10 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cho et al. (in IDS: J.O.C. 1999, 64, p. 8048-8050).

Cho et al. teaches the compound

on page 8048 which anticipates the

claims where R1 and R2 are ethyl.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. Claims 1, 2, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claims utilize the term "substituted" which has no limits and the specification only describes inclusive examples which are not limiting. For example the specification defines terms like the following:

As used herein, the term "substituted C1-C10 alkyl" is intended to include the branch or straight-chain alkyl group of the specified number of carbon atoms, wherein the carbon atoms may be substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group which includes, but is not limited to, halo, C1-C20 alkyl, CF3, NH2, N(C1-C6 alkyl)2, NO2, oxo, CN, N3, -OH, -O(C1-C6 alkyl), C3-C10 cycloalkyl, C2-C6 alkenyl, C2-C6 alkynyl, (C0-C6 alkyl) S(O)0-2-, (C0-C6 alkyl)S(O)0-2(C0-C6 alkyl)-, (C0-C6 alkyl)C(O)NH-, H2N-C(NH)-, -O(C1-C6 alkyl)CF3, (C0-C6 alkyl)C(O)-, (C0-C6 alkyl)OC(O)-, (C0-C6 alkyl)OC(O)-, (C0-C6 alkyl)OC(O)-, alkyl)OC(O)-, alkyl)OC(O)-, (C0-C6 alkyl)OC(O)-, alk

This language when used in the claims does not definitely describe what the applicant claims as their invention in a manner such that one of skill in the art would be able to identify the metes and bounds of the claims. Therefore, the claims are indefinite.

Conclusion

No claims are in condition for allowance.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROBERT HAVLIN whose telephone number is (571)272-9066. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri., 7:30am-5pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joe McKane can be reached on (571) 272-0699. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Robert Havlin/ Examiner, Art Unit 1626 /Rebecca L Anderson/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1626